

ANDREW J. KONKLE.

APRIL 11, 1884.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. LE FEVRE, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 4568.]

*The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 4568) granting a pension to Andrew J. Konkle, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report:*

That Andrew J. Konkle was major of the First Regiment of Ohio Light Artillery; he was mustered into the service October 17, 1861, and was discharged August 8, 1864. The claimant was also captain of Company D, First Regiment Ohio Light Artillery. The claim for pension is based upon the ground of rheumatism, heart disease, and debility, contracted while in the service of the United States and in the line of his duty. This disability, it is alleged, was contracted in the fall and winter of 1863.

Doctors J. S. Beck, H. S. Jewett, and A. S. Dunlap, examining surgeons at Dayton, Ohio, in a report made February 5, 1879, certify as follows:

We have carefully examined Andrew J. Konkle, late captain of Company D, First Regiment Ohio Light Artillery. In our opinion the said Konkle is totally disabled and incapacitated for obtaining his subsistence by manual labor on account of rheumatism and heart disease. He has been in the National Soldiers' Home for over two years, and it is our opinion, from the evidence before us, that his disability originated in the service and in the line of duty. He has had several attacks during the last two years of sub-acute rheumatism. The action of his heart is rapid, though feeble. There is a decided murmur, and some regurgitation.

The claim was rejected by the Pension Department on the ground that disability existed previous to enlistment.

Henry M. Skillman, a physician in good standing, whose residence at the time of making affidavit was Lexington, Ky., says, under date of March 25, 1879:

Maj. Andrew J. Konkle, during the year 1864, when he was holding a commission as major in the First Ohio Light Artillery Regiment, came under my observation professionally, and I treated him for chronic rheumatism and heart disease, and general debility. I have no interest in the matter whatever.

The character of Dr. Skillman is certified to as being above reproach.

Theodore F. Heath, a physician of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, on the 14th day of December, 1877, makes affidavit as follows:

I have been personally acquainted with Andrew J. Konkle for twenty-five years, and I know from personal observation that the said Konkle was a sound and healthy man, free from chronic rheumatism and heart disease prior to the time of his entering the United States service in 1861.

H. W. Pease, late captain of Battery D, First Regiment Ohio Volunteer Artillery, on the 12th day of May, 1877, makes affidavit as follows:

I have been personally acquainted with Andrew J. Konkle for twenty-five years, and he was a sound and healthy man, free from rheumatism and heart disease previous to and at the time he entered the service of the United States. I well remember that on or about November, 1863, the said Andrew J. Konkle was taken sick at Knoxville, Tenn., and went to Lexington, Ky., on sick leave. I subsequently visited the said Konkle while sick at Lexington, and I also remember the disease he was afflicted with was termed rheumatism and heart disease. I have no interest whatever in any claim this may be intended to support.

F. B. Mussy, M. D., late surgeon Thirty-third Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, on the 17th day of December, 1878, swears as follows:

I attended Maj. Andrew J. Konkle at the Hall House, corner of Ninth and Sycamore streets, Cincinnati, during the year 1868, and he was at that time suffering from the effects of a severe attack of heart disease and chronic rheumatism.

William Carron, M. D., of Cincinnati, A. S. Dandridge, M. D., of Cincinnati, and John Davis, M. D., of Cincinnati, all make affidavits similar to those already quoted.

In view of the fact that the claimant's term of service in the war of the rebellion extended from October 17, 1861, to August 8, 1864, during which he performed all the active and arduous duties of a soldier, and it being proven beyond a doubt that he has been almost totally disqualified for manual labor ever since his discharge, your committee cheerfully recommend the passage of the accompanying bill.

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